and further instalment on the basis of Utilization Certificate. The spending (grant-in-aid etc.) by the Ministry is controlled through inspections by the representatives of the State Governments, nodal agencies and the Ministry's own officials. As a result of inspection, where it is found that the delivery of services is not commensurate with the funds released by the Ministry, the concerned agency is advised to improve its performance. In case of failure to improve or clear defalcation of funds, further release of grant-in-aid is suspended.

(c) There are no separate schemes for border areas of Rajasthan. However, the welfare schemes of the Ministry are for the entire country and cover all the States/UTs.

(d) The welfare schemes are implemented through the State Governments and also through voluntary organizations.

Financial assistance to backward castes for higher education in Gujarat

4923. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial assistance given to the backward castes in Gujarat for higher education through National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation during the year 1999-2000;

(b) the number of persons benefited thereby;

(c) the number of applications received and pending out of them; and

(d) the criteria adopted for selection of persons for such assistance?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA): (a) No financial assistance has been provided to the persons belonging to Other Backward Classes. (OBCs) in Gujarat for Higher education through National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC) during the year 1999-2000.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The State Channelising Agency (SCA) of Gujarat has not submitted any proposal during 1999-2000. As such, no proposal is pending with NBCFDC.

(d) The criteria adopted for selection of persons for obtaining loan under the scheme are as under:

1. The student should belong to Backward Classes as notified by the Central or State Governments from time to time.

2. The family income of the applicant should not exceed Rs. 42,412/-(double the poverty line).

3. The applicant should have obtained the admission during current session in the course and the institute approved by AICTE, Medical Council of India, etc., as the case may be.

Workshop on appropriate models of education for children with special needs

4924. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rehabilitation Council of India had organized a workshop on 'Appropriate Models of Education for Children with Special Needs' at Secunderabad in September, 2001;

(b) whether the workshop, *inter-alia*, recommended formulation of a National Policy on Special Education;

(c) if so, whether Government have examined the proposal; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The component of special education is already included in the draft National Policy on Disability Rehabilitation.

Evaluation of Tribal Sub-Plan

4925. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the average amount (percentage) of Special Central Assistance (SCA) and grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution in a Tribal Sub-Plan Budget;